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USSR

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OPINIONS OF JOURNALISTS ON AMERICAN MILITARY LEADERS'  
REACTIONS TO GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

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23 Dec 1944

TO: VICTOR.

Correspondents who have contacts with the military leaders - DUMBLEDEE [SHWEL'] [i], SWING [ii], PANCACE [BLIN] [iii] and CHEF [SHEF] [iv] in a conversation with SERGEJ [v] maintained that the General Staff of the COUNTRY [SERINA] [vi] is very much alarmed at the German offensive which may delay for several months the renewal of the American general offensive which is calculated to crush Germany in concert with us. DUMBLEDEE had a chat with the head of the ARSENAL [vii] who told him that if the Germans seize LIEGE and the adjacent [D] areas on the front it will take a further 3-4 months to reorganise the American offensive and [D] longer to make good the stocks of military equipment now concentrated in this area. DUMBLEDEE was recently in France for a month and there concluded from a chat with EISENHOWER that the American plan provides for a break-through onto the left bank of the RHINE in the middle of January. At this period the Americans were counting on our offensive in Poland primarily in the direction of CRACOW.

No. 936

22nd December.

MAY [MLJ] [viii]

[Comments overleaf]

Distribution

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Comments: [i] SMEL': in this case an unidentified journalist.

[ii]

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[iii] BLIN: Isidore Farnstein STONE, Washington editor of the "Nation", and Washington correspondent for "EM".

[iv] SHEF: unidentified.

[v] SERGEJ: Vladimir Sergeevich PRAVDIN,

[vi] STRANA: the United States of America.

[vii] ARSENAL: U.S. War Department, "the head" of which was Henry L. STIMSON, Secretary of State for War.

[viii] MAJ: Pavel Ivanovich FEDOSIMOV.

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